<u>REMARKS</u>

Examination and consideration of the application as amended is requested and allowance of claims 1-31, as amended, at an early date is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

9/2 (7) 2000 Duta By: Ted K. Ringsred, Reg. No.: 35,658

Telephone No.: 651-736-5839

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel 3M Innovative Properties Company Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833